

**THE EARTHWORM:**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE WINDSOR GARDEN CLUB  
AUGUST 2016



PRESIDENT: DIANE BERNIER  
VICE PRESIDENT: MAUREEN VAGNINI  
TREASURER: JIM BENNETT  
RECORDING SECRETARY: LAURIE DURANT  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: ERIN BOURDON  
PAST PRESIDENT: LAURA JARY  
EARTHWORM EDITOR: ROSE STEPNIK

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Dear Windsor Garden Club Members,**

Thank you to Laurie Durant and Janet Giannetti for hosting our summer backyard meetings. Laurie has a wonderful collection of succulents in her greenhouse and whimsical metal characters in her garden. Janet has a vegetable garden to rival the local CSA and we enjoyed seeing her son's butterfly garden that he did as a school project.

We have had such a great turnout and the weather has been beautiful. We look forward to visiting Tom Graywacz's house on August 8 from 6pm to 8pm, note the time difference from our last meetings.

It was really nice to have our scholarship recipient and her parents in a more casual setting to find out more about her and her goals. What a lovely young lady.

Hope to see you at Tom's house at 11 Wilton Road Windsor at 6pm

Sincerely,  
***Diane Bernier, President***

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**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT UPDATE**

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On June fourth several members of the Windsor Garden Club with members of the Praise Power and Prayer Christian School transformed an area next to their main building into a lovely garden. The first task was to rid the area of a very aggressive invasive vine. We planted new perennials and transplanted several of their existing plants. They were very appreciative of our efforts. Thanks to **Diane Bernier** for organizing this project.

Left to right: Lauren McMahan, Diane, school director Ray McMahan and Lee.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> MEETING – 6:00PM START for the setting sun!**

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Photos from our July gathering at the Giannetti garden.

Tom Graywacz has again opened his home for the **August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting from 6:00 to 8:00PM**. Please check the web site for a map to his home at **11 Wilton Road**. Don't forget to bring a treat to share and a folding chair to relax in. Also bring a guest that might have interest in learning more about the Windsor Garden Club.

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## SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup> MEETING

The first regular Garden Club meeting for the 2016- 2017 year is on Monday September 12th. See you at 6:30PM at the L. P. Wilson Community Center. The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers. See page 3.

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### MEETING INFORMATION

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- For additional program information, please call 860-219 1419, or search windsorgardenclubct.org
- **Club meetings** are *typically* conducted on the second Monday of the month.
- Meetings begin at 6:30 PM with social time, followed by the evening's guest speaker beginning at 7:00 PM. The business portion of the meeting completes the evening.
- New members are always welcome.
- Meetings take place at the L.P Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT, in the Senior Center Room, which is located on the front left side of the building.
- **During the months of June, July and August, club meetings are informal and are typically held at member's homes. BYO chair and a treat to share.**
- Please check the calendar page to verify all meeting dates.
- These meetings are free of charge. The programs will begin at 7:00PM.



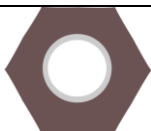
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### Food Bank Donations:

Please remember to bring a non perishable food item to our meetings for the **Windsor Food Bank**. Their clients' needs are all year round. Donations can be left at the table where you check in.

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## COMMUNITY SERVICE



A friendly reminder and request from Jim Bennett that he is still seeking clear plastic jars such as 16 oz size peanut butter jars, 16 oz dry roasted peanut jars and 16 oz apple sauce jars. These containers will be used to hold and sort, the Bradley Air Museum's vast inventory of nuts, bolts, screws, washers and spacers.

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[WWW.WINDSORGARDENCLUBCT.ORG](http://WWW.WINDSORGARDENCLUBCT.ORG)

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## FIELD TRIP NEWS

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### **The Florence Griswold Museum, Old Lyme, CT. – September 10<sup>th</sup> - 10AM departure**

We have a field trip planned on Saturday, Sept 10th to see the exhibit called ***The Artists Garden, American Impressionism and the Garden Movement 1887-1920***. Organized by the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, The Artist Garden tells the story of American Impressionists and the growing popularity of gardening as a middle-class leisure pursuit at the turn of the 20th Century, bringing together paintings, sculpture, books, and stained glass.

Group Admission (Groups larger than 10) is \$8.00. We will be doing a self-guided tour. We will do a group lunch after the Museum, still undecided. We will **meet at the Community Center at 10 am to arrange for car-pooling**. Please email Maureen at [maureenvagnini@gmail.com](mailto:maureenvagnini@gmail.com) **no later than Wednesday, September 7th** if you plan to join us. Thanks

**For more information see the link here:** <https://florencegriswoldmuseum.org/exhibitions/artists-garden/>  
The Artist's Garden was nominated for a Global Fine Arts Award. Twenty-eight of the best exhibitions produced from around the world during the past year were selected by a prestigious jury of art professionals.

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## COMMITTEES:

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*All Members are encouraged to participate in one committee. Please sign up and help.*

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## CIVIC ENDEAVORS

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### **INVASIVE VINES AND PLANTS COMMITTEE AT WINDSOR FARMER'S MARKET**

After losing our summer spot to a paying customer (!!), First Town Downtown will provide us with space at the Farmers Market in September. As before, we could use some volunteers to set up and distribute information on Invasive Vines and Plants in Windsor to our citizens on the early shift from **3:15 to 4:30PM**.

Please contact Maureen Vagnini if you can help. Thanks!  
Please see the **Invasive Plant Information Page** on our web site.

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### **HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:**

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Hospitality Co-chairmen Wendy Mitchell and Joan Lynch, along with committee member Debbie Baker, are **asking for volunteers** to bring goodies for our first meeting in September. Please contact them by email or a quick call. **Thank You in advance!**

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### **2017 GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEE – SUMMER UPDATE**

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This has been a busy summer for our committee. Every member has looked at gardens and has helped to plan for our 2017 tour! We have some lovely garden scapes to help us celebrate;  
**80 Years Down Memory Lane....and Still Growing, July 15, 2017**

Please mark your calendars to save this date as we will need your help to oversee gardens on the tour, make snacks and sell tickets for our fundraiser. Thanks everyone, Cindy Daniels

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### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

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**2016-2-17 Membership renewal forms were due by the end of June.** A link to the forms can be found on the website. Individual memberships are still \$20.00 while family memberships are still \$35.00.

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*"Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability." Sam Keen*

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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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### LOGO T-SHIRTS - ORDER FOR FALL!

Orders for Windsor Garden Club Logo apparel can be placed at the September meeting for the fall, thru Suzi Jacques. Any questions call Suzi at 860-298-8935. Next order will be in April. See logo on Page 1.

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### July Meeting Recipe Favorite!

#### Bread and Butter Pickle recipe:

4 quarts (8 lbs) sliced medium cucumbers  
4-5 baseball sized white onions, sliced  
1/3 cup pickling salt (Kosher Salt)  
3-5 cloves garlic, halved  
Cracked Ice

4 cups sugar  
3 cups apple cider vinegar  
2 tablespoons mustard seed  
1-½ teaspoons turmeric  
1-½ teaspoons celery seed



- In a large bowl combine cucumbers, onions, salt and garlic. Stir in a large amount of cracked ice, and cover the top. Let stand for 3 hours; drain well, remove any unmelted ice. In a large kettle, combine the drained mixture with the sugar, vinegar, mustard seed, turmeric, and celery seed. Note that the mixture does not need to be fully submerged in the liquid, but press it down as much as possible to get most of it submerged. Bring to a boil.
- Pack cucumber mixture into hot, *sterilized*, pint jars. Fill packed jar with the liquid leaving a ¼- ½“ headspace. Install lids.
- There is no need to *process* these pickles by boiling them again\*. Wash off jars and flip upside-down onto a towel. Let jars cool overnight.
- Remove rims, verify all lids are sealed tight, wash jars again, and store in a cool place (or in the refrigerator). Pickles are ready to eat immediately.
  - \*Note: If you choose to process the pickles, place jars into processing rack in boiling water. Process 10 minutes. Tighten lids.

***Our thanks to Thomas Graywacz for sharing his pickles and his recipe.***

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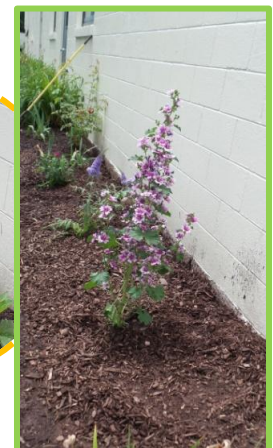
*"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago." ~ Warren Buffett*

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Photos from the June 4<sup>th</sup> Community Service Day at Praise Power and Prayer Christian School. Well done all!



Judy Linton, our new membership chair, tackling the weeds before the crew placed these lasting perennials.



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## 2016 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER ANNOUNCED

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Members and guests at the June Garden Club gathering were present for the awarding of the 2016 Club Scholarship to **Samantha G. Dehais**, a Windsor High School scholar. After the presentation, Samantha discussed her college major with the Club and answered questions



about her future plans. Also present were her proud parents Mary and John Dehais. It was our pleasure to meet this lovely family and we are fortunate to support such a worthy student.

We wish Samantha the best when she begins her college experience at Drexel University in Philadelphia this September. Samantha plans to major in Fiber Science and Textile Engineering with the hopes of researching and developing environmentally friendly fibers for clothing.

Left to right in the garden of Laurie Durant: Windsor Garden Club President, Diane Bernier; John Dehais; Scholarship Award recipient Samantha Dehais; Mary Dehais; Scholarship Chairwoman, Rose Stepnick; and Past President, Laura Jary.

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## GARDENING TIPS — ALL ABOUT THE CRITTERS

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### **Rabbit Proof Plants...and some they love.**

Rabbits dine out all year. They will devour tender shoots in spring and gnaw through bark in the winter. You can tell when rabbits, not deer, have been chewing on your woody plants because there's a clean cut. Deer do not have teeth on the top front of their mouths and must tear off the plants they munch on, leaving ragged stems.

**For the lists of plants, read here:**[http://gardening.about.com/od/deerrodents/a/Rabbit-Proof-Plants.htm?utm\\_content=7197973&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cn\\_nl&utm\\_campaign=gardening&utm\\_term=](http://gardening.about.com/od/deerrodents/a/Rabbit-Proof-Plants.htm?utm_content=7197973&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_campaign=gardening&utm_term=)

### **Deer Resistant Plants**

This article includes several lists from flowers to trees. Perhaps it will help with future planning.

**Read more here:** [http://landscaping.about.com/od/Deer-Proof-Plants/tp/Deer-Resistant-Plants.htm?utm\\_content=7197973&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cn\\_nl&utm\\_campaign=gardening&utm\\_term=](http://landscaping.about.com/od/Deer-Proof-Plants/tp/Deer-Resistant-Plants.htm?utm_content=7197973&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_campaign=gardening&utm_term=)

### **Dog Repellents: How to Keep Dogs Out of Your Yard**

The need for effective dog repellents is clear to all of those long-suffering folks who, although not dog owners, are nonetheless forced to deal with the unpleasant task of dog waste disposal. Below I consider some of the best approaches known to keep dogs away from yards, without harming them in any way.

Read more here at ABOUT.com:

[http://landscaping.about.com/od/pestcontrol/a/dog\\_repellents.htm?utm\\_content=7195985&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cn\\_nl&utm\\_campaign=gardening&utm\\_term=](http://landscaping.about.com/od/pestcontrol/a/dog_repellents.htm?utm_content=7195985&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_campaign=gardening&utm_term=)

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**"A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken."- James Dent**

*"If you saw a heat wave, would you wave back?" - Steven Wright*